

Refine Search

Search Results -

Terms	Documents
L22 and (pick\$ with (location or address\$))	11

Database:
 US Pre-Grant Publication Full-Text Database
 US Patents Full-Text Database
 US OCR Full-Text Database
 EPO Abstracts Database
 JPO Abstracts Database
 Derwent World Patents Index
 IBM Technical Disclosure Bulletins

Search: L25

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Search History

DATE: Wednesday, July 14, 2004 [Printable Copy](#) [Create Case](#)

Set Name Query

side by side

Hit Count Set Name

result set

DB=EPAB,JPAB,DWPI,TDBD; THES=ASSIGNEE; PLUR=YES; OP=OR

L25	L22 and (pick\$ with (location or address\$))	11	L25
L24	L22 and (pick\$ with base\$ with (location or address\$))	0	L24
L23	L22 and (pick\$ with order with base\$ with (location or address\$))	0	L23
L22	((distribut\$ or deliver\$) with ("same" with deliver\$)) and @pd<=20000225	7977	L22

DB=USPT; THES=ASSIGNEE; PLUR=YES; OP=OR

L21	L11 and (pick\$ with order with base\$ with (location or address\$))	8	L21
L20	L11 and (pick\$ with base\$ with (location or address\$))	28	L20
L19	L18 and (online with deliver\$)	0	L19
L18	L11 and hallmark\$ and deliver\$ and greeting	6	L18
L17	L16	1	L17
L16	L15 and deliver\$	1	L16
L15	6453300.pn.	1	L15
L14	L13 not l12	44	L14

<u>L13</u>	I11 and 705/26,27.ccls.	55	<u>L13</u>
<u>L12</u>	I10 and 705/26,27.ccls.	16	<u>L12</u>
<u>L11</u>	((distribut\$ or deliver\$) with ("same" with deliver\$)) and @ad<=20000225	37334	<u>L11</u>
<u>L10</u>	I8 and 705/26,27.ccls.	16	<u>L10</u>
<u>L9</u>	I8 and 705/26,27.ccls.L8	9454	<u>L9</u>
<u>L8</u>	((distribut\$ or deliver\$) with ("same" with part\$)) and @ad<=20000225	9454	<u>L8</u>
<u>L7</u>	705/? .ccls and ("same" with part\$)	0	<u>L7</u>
<u>L6</u>	705/? .ccls and ("same" with party)	0	<u>L6</u>
<u>L5</u>	705/26,27.ccls and ("same" with party)	0	<u>L5</u>
<u>L4</u>	L1 and "same"	1	<u>L4</u>
<u>L3</u>	L1 and ("same" with part\$)	0	<u>L3</u>
<u>L2</u>	L1 and (sensitiv\$ or priva\$)	1	<u>L2</u>
<u>L1</u>	5960411.pn.	1	<u>L1</u>

END OF SEARCH HISTORY

Hit List

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Search Results - Record(s) 1 through 10 of 11 returned.

☐ 1. Document ID: JP 411139555 A

Using default format because multiple data bases are involved.

L25: Entry 1 of 11

File: JPAB

May 25, 1999

PUB-NO: JP411139555A

DOCUMENT-IDENTIFIER: JP 411139555 A

TITLE: SORTING DEVICE FOR DIFFERENT KIND OF BAR STEEL BY TRAVERSER

PUBN-DATE: May 25, 1999

INVENTOR-INFORMATION:

NAME

COUNTRY

TANAKA, MASAHIRO

INT-CL (IPC): B65 G 47/90

Full	Title	Citation	Front	Review	Classification	Date	Reference			Claims	KWIC	Draw Ds
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☐ 2. Document ID: JP 05120064 A

L25: Entry 2 of 11

File: JPAB

May 18, 1993

PUB-NO: JP405120064A

DOCUMENT-IDENTIFIER: JP 05120064 A

TITLE: TRACE ACQUISITION SYSTEM

Full	Title	Citation	Front	Review	Classification	Date	Reference			Claims	KWIC	Draw Ds
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☐ 3. Document ID: JP 04144808 A

L25: Entry 3 of 11

File: JPAB

May 19, 1992

PUB-NO: JP404144808A

DOCUMENT-IDENTIFIER: JP 04144808 A

TITLE: PICKING CART SYSTEM

Full	Title	Citation	Front	Review	Classification	Date	Reference			Claims	KWIC	Draw Ds
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☐ 4. Document ID: JP 59200371 A

L25: Entry 4 of 11

File: JPAB

Nov 13, 1984

PUB-NO: JP359200371A

DOCUMENT-IDENTIFIER: JP 59200371 A

TITLE: METHOD AND DEVICE FOR PICTURE SIGNAL PROCESSING

Full	Title	Citation	Front	Review	Classification	Date	Reference			Claims	KWIC	Draw. De
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☐ 5. Document ID: JP 59040358 A

L25: Entry 5 of 11

File: JPAB

Mar 6, 1984

PUB-NO: JP359040358A

DOCUMENT-IDENTIFIER: JP 59040358 A

TITLE: DISK RECORD REPRODUCER

Full	Title	Citation	Front	Review	Classification	Date	Reference			Claims	KWIC	Draw. De
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☐ 6. Document ID: EP 119659 A2

L25: Entry 6 of 11

File: EPAB

Sep 26, 1984

PUB-NO: EP000119659A2

DOCUMENT-IDENTIFIER: EP 119659 A2

TITLE: Forage harvesters.

Full	Title	Citation	Front	Review	Classification	Date	Reference			Claims	KWIC	Draw. De
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☐ 7. Document ID: NN84113332

L25: Entry 7 of 11

File: TDBD

Nov 1, 1984

TDB-ACC-NO: NN84113332

DISCLOSURE TITLE: Improved AGVS Work Station

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Full	Title	Citation	Front	Review	Classification	Date	Reference			Claims	KWIC	Draw. De
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☐ 8. Document ID: WO 9736465 A1, KR 2000004989 A, AU 9725482 A

L25: Entry 8 of 11

File: DWPI

Oct 2, 1997

DERWENT-ACC-NO: 1997-490025
DERWENT-WEEK: 200061
COPYRIGHT 2004 DERWENT INFORMATION LTD

TITLE: Electrical component feeder system for automatic PCB assembly line - has
hoppers and delivery channels machined into block of material with transparent
front plate and channels in same vertical plane with components moved by blasts of
compressed air.

Full	Title	Citation	Front	Review	Classification	Date	Reference			Claims	KWIC	Draw De
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☐ 9. Document ID: EP 599360 A2, ES 2105084 T3, CA 2106723 A, US 5372473 A, EP 599360 A3, US
5487637 A, JP 08337202 A, EP 599360 B1, DE 69312872 E

L25: Entry 9 of 11

File: DWPI

Jun 1, 1994

DERWENT-ACC-NO: 1994-169677
DERWENT-WEEK: 199748
COPYRIGHT 2004 DERWENT INFORMATION LTD

TITLE: Automatic tray handling system - has infeed working and outfeed stations to
load, unload and compensate for differences in supply and demand

Full	Title	Citation	Front	Review	Classification	Date	Reference			Claims	KWIC	Draw De
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☐ 10. Document ID: EP 565062 A1, ES 2081154 T3, DE 4211541 A1, DE 4305204 A1, EP 565062 B1,
DE 59301189 G

L25: Entry 10 of 11

File: DWPI

Oct 13, 1993

DERWENT-ACC-NO: 1993-322313
DERWENT-WEEK: 199614
COPYRIGHT 2004 DERWENT INFORMATION LTD

TITLE: Appts. for changeover of material to be banded - has banding device
connected to gripper and drum positioning banding strap running longitudinally
beneath goods in stack

Full	Title	Citation	Front	Review	Classification	Date	Reference			Claims	KWIC	Draw De
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L25: Entry 3 of 11

File: JPAB

May 19, 1992

PUB-NO: JP404144808A

DOCUMENT-IDENTIFIER: JP 04144808 A

TITLE: PICKING CART SYSTEM

PUBN-DATE: May 19, 1992

INVENTOR-INFORMATION:

NAME

COUNTRY

NAKAMURA, TOKUYUKI

ASSIGNEE-INFORMATION:

NAME

COUNTRY

MURATA MACH LTD

APPL-NO: JP02270198

APPL-DATE: October 8, 1990

INT-CL (IPC): B65G 1/00

ABSTRACT:

PURPOSE: To enable even a beginner carry out the same degree of work as an experienced man by providing a control part which delivers a warning signal when a desired shelf to be picked is detected and a means of displaying the desired shelf on a display screen through the control part.

CONSTITUTION: When an operator (M) presses the working start setting start push-button (24) of an operation display part (13), a control part (14) displays a desired shelf to be picked in the whole shelf plan view on the screen of the display part (13). The operator (M) moves a cart (1) arbitrarily. Then the shelf location data of an ID tag (26) arranged on the shelf are read in by the antenna unit (17) arranged at the side of the cart (1) to make verification on whether or not it meets the desired shelf address of the picking data through the control part (14), and if so, the control part (14) issues a warning sound through a buzzer (20) to notify the operator (M) that it is the desired shelf. At the same time, the control part (14) displays the condition of a passing shelf, the operator's position of picking cart and the traveling direction on the operation display part (13).

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L25: Entry 6 of 11

File: EPAB

Sep 26, 1984

PUB-NO: EP000119659A2

DOCUMENT-IDENTIFIER: EP 119659 A2

TITLE: Forage harvesters.

PUBN-DATE: September 26, 1984

INVENTOR-INFORMATION:

NAME

COUNTRY

MORTIER, FRANS H

ASSIGNEE-INFORMATION:

NAME

COUNTRY

SPERRY NV

BE

APPL-NO: EP84200363

APPL-DATE: March 14, 1984

PRIORITY-DATA: GB08307441A (March 17, 1983)

US-CL-CURRENT: 56/12.9

INT-CL (IPC): A01D 43/08; A01D 89/00

EUR-CL (EPC): A01D089/00; A01D089/00, A01F029/10

ABSTRACT:

CHG DATE=19990617 STATUS=O> A forage harvester comprising a frame (1), a cutterhead (4) mounted on the frame, an auger structure (3) mounted on the frame and operable to consolidate crop material transversely of the machine and to deliver it rearwardly of the machine for processing by the cutterhead, the auger structure comprising an auger (3) rotatably mounted on the frame and an auger trough (38) fixed to the frame and cooperable with the auger, and a pick-up device (2) operable to deliver crop material to the auger structure (3) and being mounted for pivotal movement relative to the auger structure at a location generally in front and in proximity to the leading edge of the auger trough and about an axis (11, 11 min) disposed rearwardly of the auger structure (3), the pick-up device (2) in use being pivotable about its pivot axis (11, 11 min) in following the ground contour, and pivotable about the same axis in moving between a lowered, operative position and a raised, transport position.

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Search Results - Record(s) 11 through 11 of 11 returned.

☐ 11. Document ID: EP 342825 A, US 5607278 A, DK 8902425 A, US 4979870 A, US 5158424 A, US 5203666 A, EP 342825 B1, CA 1331466 C, DE 68917639 E, US 5435687 A

Using default format because multiple data bases are involved.

L25: Entry 11 of 11

File: DWPI

Nov 23, 1989

DERWENT-ACC-NO: 1989-341615

DERWENT-WEEK: 199715

COPYRIGHT 2004 DERWENT INFORMATION LTD

TITLE: Processing plant tray loading-unloading and storage appts. - stores articles, partic. can ends, on trays input and output at variable rates to balance flow between stations

INVENTOR: DARR, R E; MOJDEN, A ; MOJDEN, W W ; MOJDEN, A E

PRIORITY-DATA: 1988US-0195220 (May 18, 1988), 1989US-0449304 (December 5, 1989), 1990US-0544683 (June 27, 1990), 1992US-0866113 (April 7, 1992), 1992US-0940534 (September 4, 1992), 1993US-0028969 (March 10, 1993), 1995US-0386293 (February 9, 1995)

PATENT-FAMILY:

PUB-NO	PUB-DATE	LANGUAGE	PAGES	MAIN-IPC
<u>EP 342825 A</u>	November 23, 1989	E	025	
<u>US 5607278 A</u>	March 4, 1997		023	B65G057/24
<u>DK 8902425 A</u>	November 19, 1989		000	
<u>US 4979870 A</u>	December 25, 1990		000	
<u>US 5158424 A</u>	October 27, 1992		023	B65G057/24
<u>US 5203666 A</u>	April 20, 1993		023	B65G057/24
<u>EP 342825 B1</u>	August 24, 1994	E	028	B65G061/00
<u>CA 1331466 C</u>	August 16, 1994		000	B65G061/00
<u>DE 68917639 E</u>	September 29, 1994		000	B65G061/00
<u>US 5435687 A</u>	July 25, 1995		023	B65G057/24

INT-CL (IPC): B65G 37/02; B65G 47/51; B65G 57/24; B65G 60/00; B65G 61/00

Full	Title	Citation	Front	Review	Classification	Data	Reference	Claims	KWIC	Draw D
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Terms	Documents
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L22 and (pick\$ with (location or address\$))

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L18: Entry 1 of 6

26, 30

File: USPT

Nov 18, 2003

US-PAT-NO: 6650761

DOCUMENT-IDENTIFIER: US 6650761 B1

TITLE: Watermarked business cards and methods

DATE-ISSUED: November 18, 2003

INVENTOR-INFORMATION:

NAME	CITY	STATE	ZIP CODE	COUNTRY
Rodriguez; Tony F.	Portland	OR		
Rhoads; Geoffrey B.	West Linn	OR		
Davis; Bruce L.	Lake Oswego	OR		
Carr; J. Scott	Beaverton	OR		

ASSIGNEE-INFORMATION:

NAME	CITY	STATE	ZIP CODE	COUNTRY	TYPE CODE
Digimarc Corporation	Tualatin	OR			02

APPL-NO: 09/ 342688 [PALM]

DATE FILED: June 29, 1999

PARENT-CASE:

RELATED APPLICATION DATA This application is a continuation-in part of copending application Ser. No. 09/314,648, filed May 19, 1999 (attached as Appendix A). This application is also a continuation-in-part of copending provisional application Ser. No. 60/134,782, also filed May 19, 1999 (attached as Appendix B). The subject matter of this application is also related to that of the assignee's other patents and applications, as exemplified by U.S. Pat. No. 5,841,978.

INT-CL: [07] G06 K 9/00

US-CL-ISSUED: 382/100; 709/217

US-CL-CURRENT: 382/100; 709/217

FIELD-OF-SEARCH: 382/100, 709/217, 709/219, 380/234, 713/176

PRIOR-ART-DISCLOSED:

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Search Selected

Search ALL

Clear

PAT-NO

ISSUE-DATE

PATENTEE-NAME

US-CL

☐ 5337361

August 1994

Wang et al.

<input type="checkbox"/> <u>5493105</u>	February 1996	Desai	235/375
<input type="checkbox"/> <u>5559868</u>	September 1996	Blonder	379/96
<input type="checkbox"/> <u>5673316</u>	September 1997	Auerbach et al.	705/51
<input type="checkbox"/> <u>5742845</u>	April 1998	Wagner	710/11
<input type="checkbox"/> <u>5761686</u>	June 1998	Bloomberg	707/529
<input type="checkbox"/> <u>5765152</u>	June 1998	Erickson	
<input type="checkbox"/> <u>5778102</u>	July 1998	Sandford, II et al.	382/251
<input type="checkbox"/> <u>5804803</u>	September 1998	Cragun et al.	
<input type="checkbox"/> <u>5892900</u>	April 1999	Ginter et al.	713/200
<input type="checkbox"/> <u>5900608</u>	May 1999	Iida	235/381
<input type="checkbox"/> <u>5915027</u>	June 1999	Cox et al.	380/54
<input type="checkbox"/> <u>5932863</u>	August 1999	Rathus et al.	
<input type="checkbox"/> <u>5933829</u>	August 1999	Durst et al.	
<input type="checkbox"/> <u>5940595</u>	August 1999	Reber et al.	
<input type="checkbox"/> <u>5969324</u>	October 1999	Reber et al.	235/462.13
<input type="checkbox"/> <u>5978773</u>	November 1999	Hudetz et al.	
<input type="checkbox"/> <u>6012102</u>	January 2000	Shachar	
<input type="checkbox"/> <u>6052486</u>	April 2000	Knowlton et al.	382/232
<input type="checkbox"/> <u>6138151</u>	October 2000	Reber et al.	709/219
<input type="checkbox"/> <u>6297491</u>	October 2001	Mangerson	250/208.1
<input type="checkbox"/> <u>6311214</u>	October 2001	Rhoads	709/217
<input type="checkbox"/> <u>6314457</u>	November 2001	Schena et al.	
<input type="checkbox"/> <u>6332193</u>	December 2001	Glass et al.	713/170
<input type="checkbox"/> <u>6345104</u>	February 2002	Rhoads	
<input type="checkbox"/> <u>2001/0001854</u>	May 2001	Schena et al.	

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

FOREIGN-PAT-NO	PUBN-DATE	COUNTRY	US-CL
0493091	July 1992	EP	
WO 97/43736	November 1997	WO	

OTHER PUBLICATIONS

U.S. patent application Ser. No. 60/112,955, Rhoads, filed Dec. 18, 1998.
U.S. patent application Ser. No. 09/074,034, Rhoads, filed May 6, 1998.
U.S. patent application Ser. No. 09/185,380, Davis et al., filed Nov. 3, 1998.
U.S. patent application Ser. No. 09/302,663, Gustafson et al., filed Apr. 30, 1999.

U.S. patent application Ser. No. 09/314,648, Rodriguez et al., filed May 19, 1999.
U.S. patent application Ser. No. 09/465,418, Rhoads et al., filed Dec. 16, 1999.

ART-UNIT: 2625

PRIMARY-EXAMINER: Patel; Jayanti K.

ASSISTANT-EXAMINER: Choobin; M. Barry

ATTY-AGENT-FIRM: Conwell; William Y. Digimarc Corporation

ABSTRACT:

A person's business card is steganographically encoded with plural-bit data. When presented to a computer system with an optical sensor, the plural-bit data is decoded and used to trigger various functionality. For example, the system can link to a remote data store containing updated contact information for the person-- contact information that is updated during the day as the person's activities make different contact information appropriate at different times. A great variety of other arrangements, some employing other steganographically encoded objects, are also detailed.

5 Claims, 2 Drawing figures

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L18: Entry 1 of 6

26, 30

File: USPT

Nov 18, 2003

DOCUMENT-IDENTIFIER: US 6650761 B1

TITLE: Watermarked business cards and methods

Application Filing Date (1):19990629Brief Summary Text (5):

"Bedoop." That might be the same sound when that same someone places their credit card in front of their desktop camera. Instantly, the product displayed on the web page is purchased. Behind the scenes, a secure purchase link is initiated, transmitting all requisite information to the vendor. Twist the credit card clockwise and the purchaser chooses overnight delivery.

Brief Summary Text (9):

"Bedoop." The sound that a refrigerator might make, outfitted with a simple camera/processor unit/net connection, as the ten year old holds up the empty milk carton and a ping goes out to the local grocery store, adding the item to an accumulating delivery list. The sound that might be heard echoing over and over inside Internet cafes as heretofore computerphobes take their first skeptical steps onto the world wide web. The sound heard at the fast food counter as the repeat customer holds up their sandwich card ticking off their latest meal, hoping for the sirens to go off for a \$500 prize given to the lucky customer of the week. Blue sky scenarios abound.

Detailed Description Text (8):

Periodically, the listed groceries can be purchased and the list cleared. In one embodiment, the list is printed (either at the home or at the grocery), and the user walks the grocery aisles and purchases same in the conventional manner. In another embodiment, the grocer pulls the listed items from the shelves (in response to a user request conveyed by the internet or telephone, or by a gesture as hereafter detailed). Once the list has been pulled, the grocer can alert the user that the groceries are available for pickup (again, e.g., by internet or telephone message), or the grocer can simply deliver the groceries directly to the user's home. Naturally, on-line payment mechanisms can be employed if desired.

Detailed Description Text (64):Greeting Cards, Birthday Cards, Etc.Detailed Description Text (65):

In accordance with a further embodiment of the invention, greeting cards and the like are encoded (e.g., by texturing, printing, etc.) with Bedoop data. On receiving such a card, a recipient holds it in front of the image capture device on a laptop or other computer. The computer responds by displaying an internet web page that has a stock- or customized-presentation (image, video, audio-video, etc.) to complement that presented on the greeting card.

Detailed Description Text (66):

The web site presentation can be personalized by the sender (e.g., with a text message, recent family photographs, etc.), either at the point of card sale, or

sometime after the card is purchased. In the latter case, for example, the card can be serialized. After taking the card home, the purchaser can visit the card vendor's web site and enter the card serial number in an appropriate user interface. The purchaser is then presented with a variety of simple editing tools to facilitate customization of the web greeting. When the sender is finished designing the web greeting, the finished web page data is stored (by software at the vendor's web site) at a site corresponding to the serial number.

Detailed Description Text (67):

When the card is received by a recipient and held in front of a Bedoop sensor, CLASS, DNS, and UID data is decoded from the card. The CLASS and DNS data are used to navigate the earlier-described server network to reach a corresponding DNS leaf node server (perhaps maintained by the Hallmark greeting card company). That leaf node server indexes a table, database, or other data structure with the UID from the Bedoop data, and obtains from that data structure the address of an ultimate web site--the same address at which the web greeting customized by the sender was stored. That address is provided by the DNS leaf node server back to the local computer, with instructions that the web page at that address be loaded and displayed (e.g., by HTML redirection). The local computer complies, presenting the customized web greeting to the card recipient.

Detailed Description Text (69):

To illustrate the foregoing alternatives, consider the on-line acquisition of a greeting cards, e.g., by visiting a web site specializing in greeting cards. With suitable user-selection (and, optionally, customization), the desired card can be printed using an ink-jet or other printer at the sender's home. In such case, the Bedoop data on the card can be similarly customized. Instead of leading to a site determined by the card vendor, the data can lead to the sender's personal web page, or to another arbitrary web address.

Detailed Description Text (71):

Prior to customizing the greeting card, the sender uses the tool provided by the internet service provider to store the address of a desired destination web address in correspondence with one of the sender's available UIDs. When customizing the greeting card, the sender specifies the Bedoop data that is to be encoded, including the just-referenced UID. The greeting card application encodes this data into the artwork and prints the resulting card. When this card is later presented to a Bedoop system by the recipient, the recipient's system loads and displays the web page specified by the sender.

Detailed Description Text (77):

Just as the above-described embodiment employed an ink-jet printer to produce a customized-Bedoop greeting card, the same principles can likewise be applied to access-control objects, such as photo-IDs.

Detailed Description Text (177):

Other cards carried in wallets and purses can also be encoded to enable various functions. The local sandwich shop that rewards regular customers by awarding a free sandwich after a dozen have been purchased can encode their frequent-buyer card with Bedoop data leading to the shop's web-based sandwich delivery service. Or the frequent-buyer card can be eliminated, and customers can instead wave their business card or other identity document in front of the shop's Bedoop sensor to get purchase credit in a tally maintained by the sandwich shop's computer.

Detailed Description Text (185):

In accordance with another embodiment of the present invention, product packaging and product advertisements can be encoded with Bedoop data that, when presented to a Bedoop system, initiates a link to a web page from which that product can be purchased, or more information obtained. Once the link has been established, the user can be instructed to manipulate the object in different of the earlier-

described modes to effect different functions, e.g., move towards camera to order the product; move away from camera for product information. If the object is moved towards the camera to effect an order, the user can be prompted to further manipulate the object to specify delivery options (e.g., rotate left for overnight mail, rotate right for regular mail). If the object is moved away from the camera to request product information, the user can be promoted to further manipulate the object to specify the type of information desired (e.g., rotate left for recipes, rotate right for FDA nutritional information, move up for information on other products in this family, move down to send an email to the product manufacturer).

Detailed Description Text (239):

As indicated earlier, movie tickets can be encoded with Bedoop data identifying, e.g., the movie title and date. When a movie viewer returns home, the ticket stub can be presented to a Bedoop system. One of the options presented by the corresponding Bedoop application can be to launch a pay-per-view screening of the just-seen movie at a discounted rate. Another is to download the movie onto a writeable DVD disk at the viewer's home, perhaps serialized to permit playback only on that viewer's DVD player, or enabled for only a few playbacks, etc. (again, likely for a discounted fee). Still another option is to present web-delivered video clips from the movie. Another is to offer related merchandise for purchase, possibly at discount to retail. (These features may be available for only a limited period after the date encoded on the ticket stub.) Another is to alert the consumer to upcoming movies of the same genres, or with the same director or stars, or released by the same studio. Still another is to direct a web browser to an on-line ticket merchant for tickets to other movies. The consumer may navigate among these options by manipulating the ticket stub, or otherwise.

Detailed Description Text (262):

Many contexts arise in which data to be presented to a consumer is valuable only if timely. The postal service mail is ill-suited for some such information due to the latency between printing a document, and its ultimate delivery to a recipient. Bedoop principles, however, allow the recipient to take a postal object that was printed well before delivery, and use it on receipt (i.e., present to a Bedoop system) to receive up-to-the-minute information. In this and other embodiments, the Bedoop data can also uniquely identify the addressee/recipient/user, so the web site can present data customized to that user.

Detailed Description Text (340):

Many contexts arise in which data to be presented to a consumer is valuable only if timely. The postal service mail is ill-suited for some such information due to the latency between printing a document, and its ultimate delivery to a recipient. The principles of the present invention allow the recipient to take a steganographically-encoded data object (card, etc.) that was printed well before delivery, and use it on receipt to receive up-to-the-minute information. (In this and other embodiments, the steganographically-encoded data can also include data uniquely identifying the recipient/user, so the web site can present data customized to that user.)

Detailed Description Text (368):

Unauthorized copying or use of the music can occur anywhere in the foregoing channels. However, one of the greatest risks occurs once the music has been delivered to the consumer (whether by tangible media, by traditional broadcast media outlets, by emerging digital distribution, or otherwise).

Detailed Description Text (396):

The combined cassette/radio player has now evolved into a general purpose computer with wide-ranging functionality, and other sophisticated devices. Music can be acquired off the web, and can be recorded in various forms (e.g. in a personal MP3 player, stored on a hard disk, stored on a writeable CD-ROM, played back and recorded on analog cassette, etc., etc.). The quality can be quite high, and the

erratic broadcast time problems of radio broadcasts have been overcome by the web's on-demand delivery mechanisms. (Moreover, the music can be downloaded in faster-than-realtime, a further benefit over recording-off-the-air techniques.)

Detailed Description Text (407):

In variants of the foregoing, internet delivery of updated memory data can be substituted for wireless delivery. For example, the artist/song title memory in the personal player can be updated by placing the player in a "nest" every evening. The nest (which may be integrated with a battery charger for the appliance) can have an internet connection, and can exchange data with the personal device by infrared, inductive, or other proximity-coupling technologies, or through metal contacts. Each evening, the nest can receive an updated collection of artists/song titles, and can re-write the memory in the personal device accordingly. By such arrangement, the watermark data can always be properly interpreted for presentation to the user.

Detailed Description Text (408):

The "Capture" concepts noted above can be extended to other functions as well. One is akin to forwarding of email. If a consumer hears a song that another friend would enjoy, the listener can send a copy of the song to the friend. This instruction can be issued by pressing a "Send" button, or by invoking a similar function on a graphical (or voice- or gesture-responsive) user interface. In response, the appliance so-instructed can query the person as to the recipient. The person can designate the desired recipient(s) by typing in a name, or a portion thereof sufficient to uniquely identify the recipient. Or more typically, the person can speak the recipient's name. As is conventional with hands-free vehicle cell phones, a voice recognition unit can listen to the spoken instructions and identify the desired recipient. An "address book"-like feature has the requisite information for the recipient (e.g., the web site, IP address, or other data identifying the location to which music for that recipient should stored or queued, the format in which the music should be delivered, etc.) stored therein. In response to such command, the appliance dispatches instructions to the clearinghouse, including an authorization to debit the sender's credit card for the music charge. Again, the clearinghouse attends to delivery of the music in a desired manner to the specified recipient.

Detailed Description Text (411):

The foregoing concepts (e.g. Capture, Send, etc.) can also be employed in connection with internet- rather than radio-delivery of music. (The following discussion is illustrated with reference to the "Capture" function, but it will be recognized that the other earlier-discussed features can be similarly implemented.)

Detailed Description Text (417):

In the case of streaming audio, the audio is not typically stored in a location in which it can be re-used by the consumer. It can be listened-to as delivered, but is then gone. Capturing the audio provides the user a copy that can be played repeatedly.

Detailed Description Text (463):

In response, the web site begins delivery of the requested video to the consumer. In the illustrated embodiment, the video is watermarked prior to delivery, but otherwise sent in unencrypted fashion, typically in streaming format, but optionally in file format. (Encryption can be used in other embodiments.) The watermarking in the illustrated embodiment is accomplished on-the-fly and can include various data, including the date of downloading, the download site, the destination IP address, the identity of the purchaser (if known), etc.

Detailed Description Text (466):

In the illustrative system, nothing in the tokens indicates the identity of the

purchaser. The web site knows the IP address of the site to which video was delivered, but need not otherwise know the identity of the purchaser. The bank would probably maintain a record of who purchased the tokens, but need not. In any event, such tokens could thereafter be exchanged among consumers, resulting in anonymity from the bank, if desired.

Detailed Description Text (467):

As described above, the video excerpts from which the consumer can select include commercials. At some sites, video may be provided from which the commercials have been excised, or which is delivered in a manner that skips past the commercials without transmitting same to the consumer. Such video will naturally command a premium price. In some embodiments, the difference in price is electronically credited as compensation to accounts maintained for (or by) the advertisers, whose advertisements are not being viewed by such consumers. (The identification of advertisers to be credited is desirably permanently encoded in the video, either throughout the video (if the video has had the commercials removed therefrom), or by data in the commercials themselves (which commercials are skipped for transmission to the consumer, but can still be decoded at the video head-end. Such encoding can be by in-band watermarking or otherwise.)

Detailed Description Text (476):

Pay-for-content applications commonly assume that if content is transmitted from a server (or head-end, etc.), it is necessarily received. Sometimes this assumption is wrong. Network outages and interruptions and internet traffic load can diminish (e.g., dropped video frames), or even negate (e.g., failed delivery), expected consumer enjoyment of content. In such cases, the consumer is left to haggle with the content provider in order to obtain an adjustment, or refund, of assessed charges.

Detailed Description Text (477):

Watermarks provide a mechanism for confirming receipt of content. If a watermark is detected continuously during a download or other delivery event, a software program (or hardware device) can issue an electronic receipt attesting that the content was properly delivered. This receipt can be stored, and/or sent to the content distributor to confirm delivery.

Detailed Description Text (480):

In another embodiment, the watermark can change during the course of the content by including, e.g., a datum that increments every frame or other increment of time (e.g., frame number, time stamp, etc.). A watermark detector can monitor the continued incrementing of this datum throughout the content to confirm that no part was garbled (which would destroy the watermark) or was otherwise missing. Again, at the end of delivery, the receiving system can issue a confirmation that XXX frames/seconds/etc. of the identified content were received.

Detailed Description Text (481):

One application of such technology is to bill for content based on receipt, rather than transmission. Moreover, billings can be adjusted based on percentage of content-value received. If delivery is interrupted mid-way through (e.g., by the consumer disabling the content-receiving device), the nominal billing for the content can be halved. Some prolonged content, e.g., televised/web-broadcast university classes, cannot be "consumed" in one session, and are thus particularly well suited for such pay-as-you-consume billing.

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L14: Entry 6 of 44

26, 30

File: USPT

Sep 17, 2002

US-PAT-NO: 6453300

DOCUMENT-IDENTIFIER: US 6453300 B2

TITLE: Personalized greeting card with electronic storage media and method of personalizing same

DATE-ISSUED: September 17, 2002

INVENTOR-INFORMATION:

NAME	CITY	STATE	ZIP CODE	COUNTRY
Simpson; William S.	Lake Oswego	OR		

ASSIGNEE-INFORMATION:

NAME	CITY	STATE	ZIP CODE	COUNTRY	TYPE CODE
CD coupon, LLC	West Linn	OR			02

APPL-NO: 09/ 377108 [PALM]

DATE FILED: August 19, 1999

PARENT-CASE:

CROSS-REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS This application hereby claims priority on U.S. Provisional Application Serial No. 60/098,570 filed Aug. 31, 1998, the disclosure of which is hereby incorporated by reference in its entirety. This application is related to allowed U.S. application Ser. No. 08/988,063 filed Dec. 10, 1997 (now U.S. Pat. No. 5,954,194), the disclosure of which is hereby incorporated by reference in its entirety.

INT-CL: [07] G06 F 17/60

US-CL-ISSUED: 705/26; 700/237

US-CL-CURRENT: 705/26; 700/237

FIELD-OF-SEARCH: 700/233, 700/234, 700/235, 700/237, 705/26, 705/27, 705/22, 705/54, 705/77

PRIOR-ART-DISCLOSED:

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☐ Search Selected☐ Search ALL☐ Clear

PAT-NO

ISSUE-DATE

PATENTEE-NAME

US-CL

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May 1979

Ikeda

4203516

May 1980

Stonoga et al.

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Jerry Lansky, "Without APS, Photo Life Goes on Via Internet", Photographic Trade News, p. 22, Aug. 1996.

ART-UNIT: 2167

PRIMARY-EXAMINER: Bartuska; F. J.

ATTY-AGENT-FIRM: Whiteford Taylor & Preston Stone; Gregory M.

ABSTRACT:

Method and system for enabling a first person to produce a customized gift for a second person, including: providing a computer-readable storage medium having a control program and non-customized information stored thereon; obtaining data from the first person which relates to the second person; using the data to generate a customization code; providing the gift and the customization code to the second person; causing the control program to request the customization code from the

second person; and using the customization code to select information from the non-customized information to provide a customized display to the second person. The gift is preferably purchased and customized through an Internet website or other electronic system.

30 Claims, 10 Drawing figures

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L2: Entry 1 of 1

File: USPT

Sep 28, 1999

DOCUMENT-IDENTIFIER: US 5960411 A

TITLE: Method and system for placing a purchase order via a communications network

Brief Summary Text (7):

Since the purchaser-specific order information contains sensitive information (e.g., a credit card number), both vendors and purchasers want to ensure the security of such information. Security is a concern because information transmitted over the Internet may pass through various intermediate computer systems on its way to its final destination. The information could be intercepted by an unscrupulous person at an intermediate system. To help ensure the security of the sensitive information, various encryption techniques are used when transmitting such information between a client computer system and a server computer system. Even though such encrypted information can be intercepted, because the information is encrypted, it is generally useless to the interceptor. Nevertheless, there is always a possibility that such sensitive information may be successfully decrypted by the interceptor. Therefore, it would be desirable to minimize the sensitive information transmitted when placing an order.

Brief Summary Text (8):

The selection of the various items from the electronic catalogs is generally based on the "shopping cart" model. When the purchaser selects an item from the electronic catalog, the server computer system metaphorically adds that item to a shopping cart. When the purchaser is done selecting items, then all the items in the shopping cart are "checked out" (i.e., ordered) when the purchaser provides billing and shipment information. In some models, when a purchaser selects any one item, then that item is "checked out" by automatically prompting the user for the billing and shipment information. Although the shopping cart model is very flexible and intuitive, it has a downside in that it requires many interactions by the purchaser. For example, the purchaser selects the various items from the electronic catalog, and then indicates that the selection is complete. The purchaser is then presented with an order Web page that prompts the purchaser for the purchaser-specific order information to complete the order. That Web page may be prefilled with information that was provided by the purchaser when placing another order. The information is then validated by the server computer system, and the order is completed. Such an ordering model can be problematic for a couple of reasons. If a purchaser is ordering only one item, then the overhead of confirming the various steps of the ordering process and waiting for, viewing, and updating the purchaser-specific order information can be much more than the overhead of selecting the item itself. This overhead makes the purchase of a single item cumbersome. Also, with such an ordering model, each time an order is placed sensitive information is transmitted over the Internet. Each time the sensitive information is transmitted over the Internet, it is susceptible to being intercepted and decrypted.

Detailed Description Text (2):

The present invention provides a method and system for single-action ordering of items in a client/server environment. The single-action ordering system of the present invention reduces the number of purchaser interactions needed to place an order and reduces the amount of sensitive information that is transmitted between a

client system and a server system. In one embodiment, the server system assigns a unique client identifier to each client system. The server system also stores purchaser-specific order information for various potential purchasers. The purchaser-specific order information may have been collected from a previous order placed by the purchaser. The server system maps each client identifier to a purchaser that may use that client system to place an order. The server system may map the client identifiers to the purchaser who last placed an order using that client system. When a purchaser wants to place an order, the purchaser uses a client system to send the request for information describing the item to be ordered along with its client identifier. The server system determines whether the client identifier for that client system is mapped to a purchaser. If so mapped, the server system determines whether single-action ordering is enabled for that purchaser at that client system. If enabled, the server system sends the requested information (e.g., via a Web page) to the client computer system along with an indication of the single action to perform to place the order for the item. When single-action ordering is enabled, the purchaser need only perform a single action (e.g., click a mouse button) to order the item. When the purchaser performs that single action, the client system notifies the server system. The server system then completes the order by adding the purchaser-specific order information for the purchaser that is mapped to that client identifier to the item order information (e.g., product identifier and quantity). Thus, once the description of an item is displayed, the purchaser need only take a single action to place the order to purchase that item. Also, since the client identifier identifies purchaser-specific order information already stored at the server system, there is no need for such sensitive information to be transmitted via the Internet or other communications medium.

Detailed Description Text (3):

FIGS. 1A-1C illustrate single-action ordering in one embodiment of the present invention. FIG. 1A illustrates the display of a Web page describing an item that may be ordered. This example Web page was sent from the server system to the client system when the purchaser requested to review detailed information about the item. This example Web page contains a summary description section 101, a shopping cart section 102, a single-action ordering section 103, and a detailed description section 104. One skilled in the art would appreciate that these various sections can be omitted or rearranged or adapted in various ways. In general, the purchaser need only be aware of the item or items to be ordered by the single action and of the single action needed to place the order. The summary description and the detailed description sections provide information that identifies and describes the item(s) that may be ordered. The shopping cart section provides the conventional capability to add the described item to a shopping cart. The server system adds the summary description, the detailed description, and the shopping cart sections to each Web page for an item that may be ordered. The server system, however, only adds the single-action ordering section when single-action ordering is enabled for that purchaser at that client system. (One skilled in the art would appreciate that a single Web page on the server system may contain all these sections but the single-action ordering section can be selectively included or excluded before sending the Web page to the client system.) This example single-action ordering section allows the purchaser to specify with a single click of a mouse button to order the described item. Once the purchaser clicks the mouse button, the item is ordered, unless the purchaser then takes some action to modify the order. The single-action ordering section contains a single-action ordering button 103a, purchaser identification subsection 103b, and single-action ordering information subsections 103c and 103d. The purchaser information subsection displays enough information so that the purchaser can verify that the server system correctly recognizes the purchaser. To reduce the chances of sensitive information being intercepted, the server system sends only enough information so that the purchaser is confident that the server system correctly identified the purchaser but yet not enough information to be useful to an unscrupulous interceptor. The additional information subsections allow the purchaser to obtain various settings or obtain

more information related to the single-action ordering. If the purchaser wants to verify the shipping address, the purchaser can select the "check shipping address" label. In response to this selection, the server system may require the purchaser to perform a "login" so that the identity of the purchaser can be verified before the shipping information is viewed or modified. The server system then sends a Web page to the client system for display and possible modification of the shipping address. In this way, the transmitting of the sensitive shipping address can be avoided unless requested by the verified purchaser.

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L2: Entry 1 of 1

File: USPT

Sep 28, 1999

DOCUMENT-IDENTIFIER: US 5960411 A

TITLE: Method and system for placing a purchase order via a communications network

Brief Summary Text (7):

Since the purchaser-specific order information contains sensitive information (e.g., a credit card number), both vendors and purchasers want to ensure the security of such information. Security is a concern because information transmitted over the Internet may pass through various intermediate computer systems on its way to its final destination. The information could be intercepted by an unscrupulous person at an intermediate system. To help ensure the security of the sensitive information, various encryption techniques are used when transmitting such information between a client computer system and a server computer system. Even though such encrypted information can be intercepted, because the information is encrypted, it is generally useless to the interceptor. Nevertheless, there is always a possibility that such sensitive information may be successfully decrypted by the interceptor. Therefore, it would be desirable to minimize the sensitive information transmitted when placing an order.

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The selection of the various items from the electronic catalogs is generally based on the "shopping cart" model. When the purchaser selects an item from the electronic catalog, the server computer system metaphorically adds that item to a shopping cart. When the purchaser is done selecting items, then all the items in the shopping cart are "checked out" (i.e., ordered) when the purchaser provides billing and shipment information. In some models, when a purchaser selects any one item, then that item is "checked out" by automatically prompting the user for the billing and shipment information. Although the shopping cart model is very flexible and intuitive, it has a downside in that it requires many interactions by the purchaser. For example, the purchaser selects the various items from the electronic catalog, and then indicates that the selection is complete. The purchaser is then presented with an order Web page that prompts the purchaser for the purchaser-specific order information to complete the order. That Web page may be prefilled with information that was provided by the purchaser when placing another order. The information is then validated by the server computer system, and the order is completed. Such an ordering model can be problematic for a couple of reasons. If a purchaser is ordering only one item, then the overhead of confirming the various steps of the ordering process and waiting for, viewing, and updating the purchaser-specific order information can be much more than the overhead of selecting the item itself. This overhead makes the purchase of a single item cumbersome. Also, with such an ordering model, each time an order is placed sensitive information is transmitted over the Internet. Each time the sensitive information is transmitted over the Internet, it is susceptible to being intercepted and decrypted.

Detailed Description Text (2):

The present invention provides a method and system for single-action ordering of items in a client/server environment. The single-action ordering system of the present invention reduces the number of purchaser interactions needed to place an order and reduces the amount of sensitive information that is transmitted between a

client system and a server system. In one embodiment, the server system assigns a unique client identifier to each client system. The server system also stores purchaser-specific order information for various potential purchasers. The purchaser-specific order information may have been collected from a previous order placed by the purchaser. The server system maps each client identifier to a purchaser that may use that client system to place an order. The server system may map the client identifiers to the purchaser who last placed an order using that client system. When a purchaser wants to place an order, the purchaser uses a client system to send the request for information describing the item to be ordered along with its client identifier. The server system determines whether the client identifier for that client system is mapped to a purchaser. If so mapped, the server system determines whether single-action ordering is enabled for that purchaser at that client system. If enabled, the server system sends the requested information (e.g., via a Web page) to the client computer system along with an indication of the single action to perform to place the order for the item. When single-action ordering is enabled, the purchaser need only perform a single action (e.g., click a mouse button) to order the item. When the purchaser performs that single action, the client system notifies the server system. The server system then completes the order by adding the purchaser-specific order information for the purchaser that is mapped to that client identifier to the item order information (e.g., product identifier and quantity). Thus, once the description of an item is displayed, the purchaser need only take a single action to place the order to purchase that item. Also, since the client identifier identifies purchaser-specific order information already stored at the server system, there is no need for such sensitive information to be transmitted via the Internet or other communications medium.

Detailed Description Text (3):

FIGS. 1A-1C illustrate single-action ordering in one embodiment of the present invention. FIG. 1A illustrates the display of a Web page describing an item that may be ordered. This example Web page was sent from the server system to the client system when the purchaser requested to review detailed information about the item. This example Web page contains a summary description section 101, a shopping cart section 102, a single-action ordering section 103, and a detailed description section 104. One skilled in the art would appreciate that these various sections can be omitted or rearranged or adapted in various ways. In general, the purchaser need only be aware of the item or items to be ordered by the single action and of the single action needed to place the order. The summary description and the detailed description sections provide information that identifies and describes the item(s) that may be ordered. The shopping cart section provides the conventional capability to add the described item to a shopping cart. The server system adds the summary description, the detailed description, and the shopping cart sections to each Web page for an item that may be ordered. The server system, however, only adds the single-action ordering section when single-action ordering is enabled for that purchaser at that client system. (One skilled in the art would appreciate that a single Web page on the server system may contain all these sections but the single-action ordering section can be selectively included or excluded before sending the Web page to the client system.) This example single-action ordering section allows the purchaser to specify with a single click of a mouse button to order the described item. Once the purchaser clicks the mouse button, the item is ordered, unless the purchaser then takes some action to modify the order. The single-action ordering section contains a single-action ordering button 103a, purchaser identification subsection 103b, and single-action ordering information subsections 103c and 103d. The purchaser information subsection displays enough information so that the purchaser can verify that the server system correctly recognizes the purchaser. To reduce the chances of sensitive information being intercepted, the server system sends only enough information so that the purchaser is confident that the server system correctly identified the purchaser but yet not enough information to be useful to an unscrupulous interceptor. The additional information subsections allow the purchaser to obtain various settings or obtain

more information related to the single-action ordering. If the purchaser wants to verify the shipping address, the purchaser can select the "check shipping address" label. In response to this selection, the server system may require the purchaser to perform a "login" so that the identity of the purchaser can be verified before the shipping information is viewed or modified. The server system then sends a Web page to the client system for display and possible modification of the shipping address. In this way, the transmitting of the sensitive shipping address can be avoided unless requested by the verified purchaser.

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L1: Entry 1 of 1

File: USPT

Sep 28, 1999

US-PAT-NO: 5960411

DOCUMENT-IDENTIFIER: US 5960411 A

TITLE: Method and system for placing a purchase order via a communications network

DATE-ISSUED: September 28, 1999

INVENTOR-INFORMATION:

NAME	CITY	STATE	ZIP CODE	COUNTRY
Hartman; Peri	Seattle	WA		
Bezos; Jeffrey P.	Seattle	WA		
Kaphan; Shel	Seattle	WA		
Spiegel; Joel	Seattle	WA		

ASSIGNEE-INFORMATION:

NAME	CITY	STATE	ZIP CODE	COUNTRY	TYPE CODE
Amazon.com, Inc.	Seattle	WA			02

APPL-NO: 08/ 928951 [PALM]

DATE FILED: September 12, 1997

INT-CL: [06] G06 F 17/60

US-CL-ISSUED: 705/26; 705/27, 345/962

US-CL-CURRENT: 705/26; 345/962, 705/27

FIELD-OF-SEARCH: 705/26, 705/27, 380/24, 380/25, 235/2, 235/375, 235/378, 235/381, 395/188.01, 345/962

PRIOR-ART-DISCLOSED:

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Search ALL

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PAT-NO	ISSUE-DATE	PATENTEE-NAME	US-CL
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<input type="checkbox"/> 5204897	April 1993	Wyman	380/4
<input type="checkbox"/> 5260999	November 1993	Wyman	384/4
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ART-UNIT: 274

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ASSISTANT-EXAMINER: Smith; Demetra R.

ATTY-AGENT-FIRM: Perkins Coie LLP

ABSTRACT:

A method and system for placing an order to purchase an item via the Internet. The order is placed by a purchaser at a client system and received by a server system. The server system receives purchaser information including identification of the purchaser, payment information, and shipment information from the client system. The server system then assigns a client identifier to the client system and associates the assigned client identifier with the received purchaser information. The server system sends to the client system the assigned client identifier and an HTML document identifying the item and including an order button. The client system receives and stores the assigned client identifier and receives and displays the HTML document. In response to the selection of the order button, the client system sends to the server system a request to purchase the identified item. The server system receives the request and combines the purchaser information associated with the client identifier of the client system to generate an order to purchase the item in accordance with the billing and shipment information whereby the purchaser effects the ordering of the product by selection of the order button.

26 Claims, 12 Drawing figures

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L21: Entry 7 of 8

File: USPT

Sep 9, 1997

US-PAT-NO: 5666493

DOCUMENT-IDENTIFIER: US 5666493 A

TITLE: System for managing customer orders and method of implementation

DATE-ISSUED: September 9, 1997

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FIELD-OF-SEARCH: 364/403, 364/401, 364/479, 364/478, 395/222

PRIOR-ART-DISCLOSED:

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

[Search Selected](#)[Search ALL](#)[Clear](#)

	PAT-NO	ISSUE-DATE	PATENTEE-NAME	US-CL
<input type="checkbox"/>	3616944	November 1971	Field	414/285
<input type="checkbox"/>	4459663	July 1984	Dye	364/403
<input type="checkbox"/>	4542808	September 1985	Lloyd, Jr. et al.	364/478
<input type="checkbox"/>	4864507	September 1989	Ebling et al.	
<input type="checkbox"/>	5038283	August 1991	Caveney	364/403
<input type="checkbox"/>	5101352	March 1992	Rembert	364/403
<input type="checkbox"/>	5161929	November 1992	Lichti, Sr. et al.	364/478
<input type="checkbox"/>	5265006	November 1993	Asthana et al.	364/401
<input type="checkbox"/>	5273392	December 1993	Bernard, II et al.	364/478

ART-UNIT: 241

PRIMARY-EXAMINER: McElheny, Jr.; Donald E.

ATTY-AGENT-FIRM: Hogue, Sr.; Dale Curtis Kilpatrick Stockton LLP

ABSTRACT:

The system of this invention manages customer orders using vendor supplied software systems interfaced on a real-time basis to touch the data in each system on a real time basis. In effect, there is horizontal communication between the various components of the system such as inventory, purchasing, order management and receipt, logistics and inventory to have continual data flow without using a vertical software interface. As a result, customer orders are received on a real-time basis using screens that are user friendly to promptly take orders, and to verify customer data and verify the ability to meet those orders. Transmission of documents within the system is minimized thereby making it more efficient, timely and cost efficient.

2 Claims, 42 Drawing figures

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L21: Entry 7 of 8

File: USPT

Sep 9, 1997

DOCUMENT-IDENTIFIER: US 5666493 A

TITLE: System for managing customer orders and method of implementation

Application Filing Date (1):19930824Detailed Description Text (35):

Referring to FIG. 13, Box 310 this is the same decision process that was made in the order delivery planning process of FIG. 12, but instead, if a full truckload the arrow goes to the left and goes down to carrier selection. There is no need to go through consolidation because it is a full truckload. If it is not a full truckload, go to the order consolidation function of Box 312. This results in putting LTL shipments into a full truckload. The system goes through certain decisions to determine what is the optimal truckload. The next few boxes are decisions which are made by the software. The AS/400 is able to load build correctly on its resident logic. It is a matter of a logistic planner's judgment to override the internal logic. For the majority of the loads, the load decision is made in the PC based software package to perform the optimal consolidation. The decisions that the actual software goes through are based on a transportation algorithm, in software on the AS/400 Platform shown in Box 314. It looks at a delivery window which means when does that product need to be delivered? Most orders are sorted by shipment date. If an order is shipped on Tuesday, the query is when does it need to be delivered? The query is, how long does it take for a product to get to a certain area, in other words, from Dade City to California it could take two days, but from Dade City to Las Vegas it also might take two days. This data is used to decide whether those two orders can go on the same truck, i.e., can it fit the delivery window based on the guaranteed delivery date for that customer? The system looks at a window delivery and asks if the loads can be consolidated based on transit time, et cetera.

Detailed Description Text (36):

Further, the function shown in Box 316 asks if they can be consolidated if the delivery window is compatible and if the customer shipped to is the same?

Detailed Description Text (37):

The next decision is shown in Box 318 and asks if it is a truckload? Of course, if a full truckload is determined there is no need to proceed. This would be the optimal consolidation if a half a truckload of frozen and a half a truckload of chilled orange juice go to the same customer. Then you have full a truckload going to the same customer and delivered on the same day, for optimal consolidation. If the arrow to the left says there is a full truckload, the decision tree goes down immediately into carrier selection.

Detailed Description Text (113):

Referring to FIG. 29 there is shown the order of the pick function in diagrammatic fashion. The decision tree is used to represent functions embodied in the system software to support the function. Orders are used to create a selection process based upon the license plate of a pallet (402) to determine the goods stored on the pallet (402). This information is used to go to a picked location based upon the

code dates so that perishable items are picked within their date rules first as well as the maximizing of the use of pallets by picking full pallets if that's what an order calls for, or partial pallets if not. As the process continues the driver goes to the location designated and if the product is there he picks the product and records it in a hand held device which then immediately feeds the information on location, SKU, lot and quantity back into the inventory management system through the hand held network and the driver then delivers his load to its destination in the system. A unique feature of this system is that using double-long forks, load picking can be maximized to route a driver to pick two pallets in adjacent locations, or in at least nearby locations, rather than run back and forth on a pick cycle. If the driver goes to the location and there is no product there he then puts a request back into the system to verify the request and location. If it comes back the same way, he then inputs this information into the system to create a cycle count that will then update the inventory system to show that there is an error and the product is not at the place indicated. The cycle count request will then initiate the second query into whether the inventory is available. If it's not, then there's a notification to the system that there is a short order and this information on variances is fed back to logistics and to management functions where it can be reconciled in a new product order. If the inventory is available, then this information is fed back into the system and a new pick order is generated. Both the availability and non-availability of inventory are fed back into the system so that the system data base can be updated to respond to future pick orders.

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